In the Claims:

Please amend the following claims:

Q1

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Compounds of inhibitors of the enzymatic activity of dipeptidyl peptidase IV (DP IV), which compounds have the general formula A-B-C, wherein

A is an amino acid,

B is a chemical bond between A and C or is an amino acid, and

C is an unstable inhibitor of DP IV wherein said unstable inhibitor is a dipeptide ~~derivative~~ compound having C-terminus with an active carbonyl group wherein said unstable inhibitor does not contain a boronate, phosphonate or trifluoroalkyl ketone group.

2. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) Compounds according to claim 1, wherein B is selected from the group consisting of proline, hydroxyproline, thiazolidinecarboxylic acid, dehydroproline, pipecolic acid, azetidinecarboxylic acid and aziridinecarboxylic acid.

3. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) Compounds according to claim 1 wherein, B is proline or hydroxyproline.

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4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Compounds according to claim 1 wherein said unstable inhibitor is a dipeptide ~~derivative~~ compound having an active carbonyl group at the C-terminus selected from the group consisting of Ile-Thia, Ile-Pyr, Val-Thia and Val-Pyr.

5. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) Compounds according to claim 1 wherein said inhibitors are present in salt form.

6. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) Compounds according to claim 1 wherein said inhibitors are present as organic salts such as acetates, succinates, tartrates or fumarates or inorganic acid radicals such as phosphates or sulphates.

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7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Compounds according to claim 1 wherein A-B is a dipeptide of formula Ile-Pro or Gly-Pro and C is a dipeptidyl alkyl ketone ~~derivative~~ compound.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~Compounds according to claim 1 wherein said compounds comprise a~~ A pharmaceutical composition for oral administration~~, wherein said composition comprises~~ comprising the compound of claim 1 and customary pharmaceutical carriers or excipients.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition for the temporally controlled *in vivo* enzymatic inhibition of DP IV comprising providing a compound of the general formula A-B-C, wherein

A is an amino acid,

B is a chemical bond between A and C or is an amino acid, and

C is an unstable inhibitor of DP IV said unstable inhibitor is a dipeptide ~~derivative~~ compound having a C-terminus with an active carbonyl group wherein said unstable inhibitor does not contain a boronate, phosphonate or trifluoroalkyl ketone group; and

preparing a pharmaceutical preparation containing said compound and customary pharmaceutical carriers or excipients.

10. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method of claim 9 wherein said compound is directed to cell-, tissue- or organ-specific enzymatic inhibition of DP IV.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method of treating metabolic disorders in mammals that can be treated by modulating the DP IV enzymatic activity of a mammal comprising the step of administering to said mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the general formula A-B-C, wherein

A is an amino acid,

B is a chemical bond between A and C or is an amino acid, and

C is an unstable inhibitor of DP IV said unstable inhibitor is a dipeptide ~~derivative~~ compound having a C-terminus with an active carbonyl group wherein said unstable inhibitor does not contain a boronate, phosphonate or trifluoroalkyl ketone group.

12. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method of claim 11 wherein said compounds are used to treat metabolic disorders in humans.

13. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method of claim 11 wherein said compounds are used to treat impaired glucose tolerance, diabetes mellitus, diabetic neuropathy and nephropathy and sequelae of diabetes mellitus in mammals.

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14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A compound of claim 1 wherein said unstable inhibitors are selected from a group consisting of a dipeptidyl alkyl ketone ~~derivative~~ compound exempting ~~with a~~ fluoro alkyl ketone ~~derivative~~ compounds ~~being exempted from the dipeptidyl alkyl ketone derivatives~~, a dipeptidyl chloroalkyl ketone, ~~dipeptidyl cyanide~~ and dipeptidyl pyridinium methyl ketone radical.

15. (PREVIOUSLY ADDED) The method of claim 11 wherein said method of administration is oral.

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16. (NEW) Compound of inhibitors of the enzymatic activity of dipeptidyl peptidase IV (DP IV), which compounds have the general formula A-B-C, wherein

A is an amino acid,

B is a chemical bond between A and C or is an amino acid, and

C is an unstable inhibitor of DP IV wherein said unstable inhibitor is dipeptidyl cyanide.